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The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Monday, Auguſt 22, 1726.

From Miſt's Weekly Journal, Aug. 13.

Jam mala finiſſem letho, ſed credulo vitam
SPES fovet, & melius cras fore ſemper ait.
SPES alit agricolas; SPES ſulcis credit aratris,
Semina quæ magno fœnore reddat ager.
Hæc laqueo volucres; hæc captat arundine piſces,
Cum tenues hamos abdidit ante cibus.
SPES etiam valida ſolatur compede vinctum;
Crura ſonant ferro, ſed canit inter opus.--- Tibul.

Mr. MIST,

HUMAN Life has not a ſurer Friend, nor many Times a greater Enemy, than HOPE. She intrudes herſelf as a Medium in all Diſtreſſes; yet ſhe is found by Experience, when too far rely'd upon, to obſtruct the Application of ſurer and more prevalent Remedies: She dazles the Underſtanding, and keeps our Reſolution in Suſpence, till a ſmall Fever turns into a Hectick and becomes incurable. It is common with all Men to extend their Hopes beyond the Proportion of what they Fear; and are therefor eaſily flatter'd into a Belief of any Felicity, tho never ſo improbable or remote; and becauſe this is natural, and imprinted in the Character of all Humanity, I am confident, tho' ſhe may ſome Time fail in the Performance of her Promiſes, with Regard to the Goods of this Life, that ſhe is nevertheleſs one of the greateſt Aſſurances we have of our future Bliſs.

Hope is the miſerable Man's Friend, which never forſakes him in the hardeſt Gripe of Calamity; 'tis the *ignis fatuus* of the Preſumptuous, which leads him a while in ſmooth Way, and then makes him break his Neck on a ſudden: She is a Bladder to the learning Swimmer, and keeps him from ſinking in the Boſom of the Waves. How many have periſhed by hoping too much? This is very remarkable in *Hope*, that ſhe is a Flatterer and true Friend; ſhe is always encouraging one in the Time of Danger; and never leaves him till they expire together. There is no Eſtate ſo miſerable, as to exclude her Comfort; Tortures, Impriſonment, Beggary and old Age; nay, Death in his horrideſt Form cannot keep her from us; ſhe darts in her reviving Rays, and exhilarates our ſinking Spirits: While Breath pants in the Dying Body, *Hope* is fleeting in the Soul. There is one Thing, which ought to add to our Value of her, which is, that ſhe is appropriated unto Man alone; for Beaſts ſurely can have no *Hope* at all, they are only capable of the preſent; whereas Man apprehending future Things, has this given him by the Almighty, for ſuſtaining his drooping Soul. Who could bear to be ſurrounded with the Numberleſs Calamities which this Life is ſtored with, did not ſmiling *Hope* cheer him with Expectations of Deliverance, and of tumbling him ſome Time or other into the Down of his Wiſhes; 'tis indeed the Play-thing which Nature has provided, to quiet the Frowardneſs of childiſh Man.

I was by, the other Day, when this fair One, in one of her pleaſant Frolicks, promiſed the Firſt Regiment of Guards to a *young Officer*, who, I believe, was never farther from this Metropolis than the out Lines of the Bills of Mortality; and at the ſame Time, promoted a *City Council* to the Cuſtody of the Seals, and to be Keeper of the King's Conſcience. Yeſterday, as I was taking two or three Turns with my Friend *Payne* in the Mall, and finding him in high good Humour with himſelf, I took the Liberty to ask him ſome Things in relation to the preſent Poſture of Affairs: He frankly told me, with a Smile in his Countenance, he then had a Scheme in his Head which would ſoon reſtore Europe to a greater Tranquillity than it had enjoyed theſe hundred Years paſt; he whiſpered me in the Ear, and told me there was a Match on foot between the Czarina and himſelf, and that he wrote her a Letter laſt Week, with a very handſome Copy of Verſes incloſed, and aſſoon as he did but receive her Anſwer, he would ſet out for Petersburg, where he was to reſide till the Conſummation was over, and aſſoon as that was done, he was to be proclaimed Emperor of Great Ruſſia, and take upon him the Adminiſtration of publick Affairs, in order to promote the Happineſs of Mankind, and give Peace to the World. I began inſenſibly to congratulate him *upon his Acceſſion to the Throne of his Anceſtors*, and made him the uſual Compliment of my *Life and Fortune*; which he wa

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pleaſed to *receive very graciouſly*: He aſſured me, the Favours he received at the Britiſh Court ſhould not be forgotten, Ingratitude was a Crime he always diſdained, and would ever avoid. I was going to ask him ſome Queſtions about Domeſtick Affairs, when I perceived Royalty creeping faſt upon him, and Majeſty appearing in all his Steps as he paſſed along: I then took my Leave of him, and left him to himſelf.

In my Return home, I could not but repine at the partial Diſpenſations of Providence, in providing ſo amply for others, and leaving me in the Lurch; tho', in my own Opinion, not inferior to any of the other Three. Envy and Deſpair alternately reigned in my Soul, and raged ſo vehemently that I was ready to burſt; when *Hope*, the Fair, the falſe Propheteſs of Fortune, ſtepp'd in to my Relief: She gently chid me for being ſo unreaſonably out of Humour, and for envying the Proſperity of others. After many Expreſſions of Kindneſs and Good-will towards me, ſhe preſented me with the 20000 l. Prize in the next Lottery, as an Earneſt of future Favours. You may believe I was highly tranſported with this unexpected Generoſity; and indeed, my Heart was ſo big with Gratitude and Love, that I had nothing left but Silence whereby to expreſs the juſt Senſe I had of her Favours. She told me, that we muſt for ſome Time part, for that ſhe was obliged to wait upon a certain *Great Man* who was much troubled in Mind, to adminiſter to him ſome of her comfortable and refreſhing Balſam. During this her Abſence, I have had Leiſure to enquire a little into her Character, which I find to be that of a common Miſtreſs; a mere Courtier, promiſing every Thing, and performing nothing; That ſhe has fool'd a great many by her fair Deluſions, and ſung them into Lethargies. Certainly it requires a great deal of Judgment to balance our Hopes even: He who hopes for nothing, will never attain to any Thing. I would be content to let her travel beyond my Reaſon, but I ſhould be very loth to let her reſt there: I could wiſh to enjoy her preſent Services, without throwing my ſelf entirely upon her. This Good comes of over-hoping, that ſhe ſweetens our Paſſage through Life, and ſometimes ſpurs us on to great and worthy Actions. If a Man hopes for Things poſſible and probable, he will find her an agreeable Companion, and receive conſiderable Helps from her; but if ſhe ſhould exceed theſe Bounds, ſhe'll infallibly deceive him in the End.

Yours, &c. *A B.*

From the Daily Journal, Aug. 13.

Peterſburg, July 26. The Czarina and the Princeſs her youngeſt Daughter, are ſet out for Riga, deſigning to make Narva and Dorpt, in their Way. Their Retinue conſiſts of about 20 Perſons. Pr. Menzicoff having found, upon his Arrival at the Duina-Munder Fort, that that important Fortreſs was but ſlenderly provided with Powder and Ball, has written for a great Quantity of Ammunition of both Sorts. 'Tis certain that the Engliſh Admiral Wager, will not leave the Neighbourhood of Revel with his Squadron, till our Fleet is actually laid up and unrigged; and as the Czarina's Anſwer to the King of Great Britain's Letter was not ſo obliging as could be wiſhed, 'tis not unlikely that the Engliſh Squadron will Winter in the Sound. The Ruſſian Army formed near Riga, was already increaſed to 44,000 Men, including the Troops of Meclemburg. The Artillery is by Prince Menzicoff's Order ſhared between the two Wings. Their Forrage is brought them by the Peaſants of Livonia and Courland. We cannot deviſe with what Intent ſo formidable an Army is aſſembled there. But moſt People think it will be ordered to the Frontiers of Poland.

Warſaw, July 31. The Royal Decree by which the Regency of Courland and the Marſhal of that Dutchy are ſummoned to appear before the Aſſeſſorial Tribunal, is dated the 27th Inſt. enjoining them to repair thither within 6 Weeks, to juſtifie their Conduct with reſpect to the Diet they have held, contrary to the Decree of the 8th of June, &c.

London, Aug. 13. On Thurſday laſt one Dalton a Baker was taken up for Sodomitical Practices, and committed to the Gate-houſe.

Laſt Week a Sturgeon 8 Foot long was taken in the Thames near Batterſea, which the L. Mayor ſent as a Preſent to his Majeſty.

Wye's Letter, verbatim, Aug. 16.

Since our laſt arrived a Holland and French Mail.

PRince Maurice of Saxony, in his Letter to the Baron d'Oſterman Privy Counſellor to the Czarina, dated from Mittaw the 15th of July 1726, ſays thus: " Prince Menzicoff at his Arrival at Mit-
" taw, aſſembled the Regency, and would force it
" to call a ſecond Diet to revoke the Election, and
" inſtall him in my Place. The Heads of the Re-
" gency are threatned to be ſent to Siberia, and the
" Country left to the Mercy of 20000 Men, if the
Diet,

" Diet does not aſſemble in 10 Days. I will not " enter into the Point how far Menaces are lawful, " but leave that to your Excellency's Judgment; " tho' I muſt ſay, that the Candidates dare not " own any other Protection than that of Poland: " And ſuch is the preſent Situation of Europe, that " the leaſt Spark may blow up the general Fire.

Mean Time we find, that the Court of Petersburg, perſiſt in their Reſolution to ſink the Election, viz. of Prince Maurice to the Dutchy of Courland, to which End a great Body of Muſcovite Troops are making off towards the aforeſaid Dutchy. The fitting out the Muſcovite Fleet is ſtill continued, but 'tis thought they will hardly venture to put to Sea, before the Departure of the Squadron under the Command of Admiral Wager, who ſtill lies on the Coaſt of the Iſle of Nargen, and had ſent to the Empreſs of Ruſſia a 3d Letter from his Britannick Majeſty; But 'tis not known that any Satisfactory Anſwer is yet given.

We are told by Letters from Vienna of the 7th Inſtant, that the Treaty betwixt the Emperor and her Ruſſian Majeſty, was ſigned the Day before in Prince Eugene's Palace, by virtue of which, the Czarina accedes intirely to that concluded the laſt Year at Vienna, betwixt the Emperor and the K. of Spain, whoſe Alliances, notwithſtanding the Notion that has been lately entertained, ſeems to be inviolable. The Accounts we have from Madrid are, That frequent Councils are ſtill held at St. Ildefonſo, at which the Emperor's Ambaſſador continually aſſiſts, and that his Catholick Majeſty has made great Remittances to the Emperor.

But tho' the Accounts by the common Letters from Madrid, render it difficult to gueſs upon what Enterprize the Squadron under Sir John Jennings is gone, yet none can doubt but that it will anſwer the good Ends propoſed thereby, particularly with reſpect to our Commerce to the Spaniſh Dominions, ſo beneficial to this Nation. And as the two other Squadrons of our Men of War under the Admirals Hoſier and Wager, were ſent abroad upon good & weighty Reaſons, ſo none can but with the greateſt Alacrity contribute to the Charge thereof.

This Day the French Ambaſſador at this Court gave an Entertainment on occaſion of the States General having ſigned their Act of Acceſſion to the Treaty of Hanover; but upon what Terms they have acceded, we are not throughly acquainted.

The Report ſtill continues of an Accommodation being made betwixt their Moſt Chriſtian and Catholick Majeſties.

The next Mail from France is expected with the greateſt Impatience, to know how it fares with the Queen, whom the laſt Letters left in a dangerous Condition. S. S. Stock, 105, 1 half p. Cent.

From the Whitehall Evening-Poſt, Aug. 16.

Stockholm, Aug. 1. On the 29th Ult. a Memorial was read in the Senate, preſented by the Miniſter of Ruſſia, wherein he acquainted them, That the Ruſſian Fleet would put to Sea, in order to face thoſe of England and Denmark; and he demanded the Reſolution of Sweden, touching the Succours ſtipulated, in caſe of an Attack. But the ſaid Memorial did not hinder the Approbation of the Acceſſion to the Treaty of Hanover; every Member here being of Opinion that the Ruſſian Fleet will not put to Sea: Which is confirmed by private Advices, not only from Admiral Wager, but from Petersburg itſelf.

London, Aug. 16. We hear the Right Honourable the Earl of Iſla, will have the Earl of Cadogan's Green Garter.

From the Evening Poſt, Aug. 16.

Hamburg, Aug. 16. The Maſters of ſeveral Ships come in from the Coaſts of Ruſſia, relate, that Admiral Wager has ſent a 3d Letter to the Court of Ruſſia, by which he declares he will retire from the Eaſt Sea in as peaceable and amicable a Manner as he entred it, provided the Propoſals of the King his Maſter be accepted. Here is Advice from Livonia, that the Ruſſian Troops are marching in three Columns to Courland, to conſtrain the States of that Dutchy to proceed to a 2d Election.

Vienna, Auguſt 7. The Treaty that has been ſome Time negociating between his Imperial and Catholick Majeſty on one Part, and her Ruſſian Majeſty on the other, was ſigned Yeſterday Morning at Prince Eugene's Palace, on the Part of his Imperial and Catholick Majeſty by his ſaid Highneſs, by his Excellency Count Zinzendorf High Chancellor of the Court, and by his Excellency Count Schonburn, Vice-Chancellor of the Empire; and on the Part of her Ruſſian Majeſty, by her Chamberlain and Miniſter Plenipotentiary, M. Lanczensky of Lanczin, with all the Solemnities uſual on the like Occaſion: By this Treaty her Ruſſian Majeſty has acceded and accedes intirely to that concluded here the laſt Year between his Imperial and Catholick Majeſty, and his Catholick Majeſty the King of Spain.

From

From the St. James's Evening-Post, Aug. 16.

Barcelona, July 31. The Camp which has lately been formed in the Plain of Vicque, is already increaſed to 25000 Men; and the Garriſons of ſeveral Places of this Principality have Orders to get themſelves in a Readineſs to march at firſt Warning. Several Veſſels laden with Proviſions are arrived in our Road, and more are expected from the Coaſt of Italy, with Proviſions of all Sorts to ſtore our Magazines.

Edinburgh, Aug. 22. Several Perſons of Diſtinction, *&c.* are gone hence to meet their Graces the Duke and Ducheſs of Athol, who are expected in Town this Night.

We hear that Mr. Alexander Gordon, Author of the Book entitul'd *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, ad the Honour to preſent their Royal Highneſſes with his Book, and was very graciouſly received; and for his future Encouragement, were pleaſed to ſubſcribe to his Propoſals for the Maps he deſigns to publiſh of the Roman Walls in Britain. That Gentleman is ſhortly expected in Scotland, to illuſtrate a Project which will greatly redound to the Advantage of Trade and Navigation of Britain.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Edinburgh, 25th July 1726.

By Order of the MAGISTRATES.

¶ That a GALLOWAY PLATE, given by the Town of Leith, value *L.* 25 *ſterl.* will be run for on the Sands of Leith on the *Seventeenth of September* next, by Galloways carrying Nine Stones Engliſh, including Whip, Saddle and Bridle; to run 3 Heats, four Miles each, or twice round the Sands.—— The Horſes are to ſtart betwixt the Hours of 10 & 11 before Noon. The other Conditions and Rules for running of this Plate, are the ſame with thoſe for running the City of Edinburgh's Plate; with this Difference, That each Perſon ſhall at Booking pay only One Guinea.

That the KING's PLATE, value 100 Guineas, will be run for on the Sands of Leith the *Nineteenth of September* next, by any Horſe, Mare or Gelding carrying Eleven Stones Engliſh, allowing Whip, *S*addle and Bridle to be Part thereof; to run Three Heats four Miles, or twice round the Sands.—— The Horſes to ſtart betwixt 11 & 12 in the Forenoon.—— No Joſtling or Croſſing to be allowed; and all Diſputes are to be determined by the Lord Provoſt and Magiſtrates, who are to be with the Flags at the Starting and Diſtance-poſts.—— The Diſtance-poſt is to be Tenſcore Yards from the Starting-poſt.—— The Rider, after each Heat, is to take off his Saddle himſelf, and carry it with him the Moment he diſmounts to the Scales, and is to be allowed in weighing a Pound for Waſte. Half an Hour is allowed at the End of each Heat, for Rubbing.—— If three ſingle Horſes gains each of them a Heat, the Horſe that gains the laſt Heat, gets the Plate: Or, if any Horſe gains the firſt two Heats, he gets the Plate.—— If any Horſe, Mare or Gelding runs on the wrong *S*ide of any of the Poſts, or runs down any of them, they are to run back the ſame Way, and run right, or be adjudged as diſtanced.—— If the Water comes in upon the Courſe, the Poſts are to be brought in during Rubbing, at the Direction of the Judges.—— The Flag at the Starting poſt to be dropt the Moment the firſt Horſe's Head is ſeen to be paſt it, at the End of each Heat. And in caſe, by the Sea's not going far enough out, the Sands ſhould allow but a ſhort Courſe, it ſhall be in the Power of the Judges, any Time before the Race, to appoint each Heat to be run thrice round the Sands.—— The Flag at the Diſtance-poſt to be dropt at the ſame Time with that at the Starting-poſt; and all the Horſes that are not ſeen to be paſt the Diſtance-poſt at that Time, are adjudged as diſtanced, and have no Right to run again.

¶ The *Silver Plate* given by the Town of Edinburgh, to the Value of 50 L. Sterling, will be run for on the Sands of Leith, on the 20th of *S*eptember next, by any Horſe Mare or Gelding, carrying ten *S*tone Engliſh Weight, allowing Whip, *S*adle, and Bridle, to run three Heats, each Heat being four Miles, or twice round the *S*ands.—— The Horſes are to ſtart betwixt Twelve and One Mid-day. No Joſtling or Croſſing to be allowed, and all Diſputes are to be determined by the Lord Provoſt, and Magiſtrates, who are to be with the Flags, at the Starting and Diſtance Poſts.—— The Diſtance Poſt is to be ten ſcore Yards from the Starting Poſt.—— The Rider after each Heat is to take off his *S*adle himſelf, and to carry it with him that Moment he diſmounts, to the Scales, and is to be allowed in weighing one *P*ound for Waſte.—— Half an Hour is allowed at the End of each Heat for Rubbing.—— If three ſingle Horſes gains each of them a Heat, the Horſe that gains the laſt Heat gets the *P*late, or if any Horſe gains the firſt two Heats, gets the *P*late.—— If any Horſe or Gelding runs on the wrong *S*ide of any of the *P*oſts, or runs down any of them, they are to run back the ſame Way, and turn right, or elſe they are adjudged as diſtanced.—— If the Water comes in upon the Courſe, the *P*oſts are to be brought in during the Time of Rubbing, at the Directions of the Judges.—— The Flag at the Starting *P*oſt to be dropt the Moment the firſt *H*orſes Head is ſeen to be paſt it, at the End of each Heat; and in caſe by the Seas not going far enough out, the Sands ſhould allow but a ſhort Courſe, it ſhall be in the *P*ower of the Judges, any Time before the Race, to appoint each Heat to be run thrice round the Sands.—— That the Horſes which are to run for this Plate, being three at leaſt, muſt be at Leith eight *D*ays before the Days of the Race, and be booked fourty eight Hours before running, and to pay two Guineas each at Booking.

EDINBURGH: Printed for Mr. *William Rolland*, by Mr. *Thomas Ruddiman* Sold at the Printing-houſe in Morocco's Cloſs in the Lawn-market; where Advertiſements and Subſcriptions are taken in, as alſo at the Shop of Mr. Alexander Symmer, Bookſeller in the Parliament-Cloſs.